

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Bulgaria	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Bulgarian Living Conditions and Morale	DATE DISTR.	4 February 1955
DATE OF INFO.		NO. OF PAGES	2
PLACE ACQUIRED		REQUIREMENT NO.	RD
		REFERENCES	

This is UNEVALUATED
Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. The main cause for the low morale of the majority of Bulgarian factory and office workers is the economic situation. The problem of restrictions on their political freedom is today considered secondary in the face of the more urgent problem of procuring the daily necessities of life. The pay of the head of a household is barely sufficient to support one person, in spite of the fact that in the last two years prices on essential items were reduced 20 to 25 percent and the stores are far better supplied than in the past. 25X1
2. Any protest brings about dismissal from work because of political misconduct, and the person dismissed for such a reason is forced to accept the most humble and hard jobs if he wishes employment.
3. In order to earn more money and exceed their quota, workers do their jobs quickly without paying attention to the most elementary technical principals. New houses, for example, from their very first occupancy are defective in piping, chimneys, blocks, and so forth.
4. The majority of the Bulgarian population tolerates with difficulty the Communist regime, but with the passage of time it has lost many of its hopes for a change in the domestic political situation. Arrests made for political motives are no longer frequent because all have become cautious, have adapted themselves to the situation, and have become resigned. Many are those who have become Party members not because of their political convictions but in order to attain political and economic tranquillity. A large number of anti-Communists have abandoned their position of absolute intransigence in the wake of international political events. The Bulgarian press always makes it appear as if the USSR determines world conditions and the United States must comply with her wishes. The Bulgarian people are impressed by the propaganda which states that the Soviet Bloc, constituted by the USSR together

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with the Satellites and China, makes up with its vast territories and enormous population, a bloc which is practically invincible. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] This recent event, in particular, showed how the will of the USSR prevails in international politics and caused the loss of the remaining hopes for a change in the political situation in Bulgaria.

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